

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 EC BRU 09397 291949Z

61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 SWF-01

LAB-03 SIL-01 /096 W

----- 032000

R 291904Z NOV 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7813

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 107

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 9397

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EEC ENRG

SUBJECT: SIMONET ON EC COMMISSION ENERGY PROPOSALS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 8853

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AT A NOVEMBER 28 PRESS CONFERENCE, EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SIMONET OUTLINED THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSED ENERGY PROGRAM WHICH IS TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON DECEMBER 17. SIMONET SAID THAT IF THE PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED, ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN THE COMMUNITY COULD BE REDUCED BY 15 PERCENT AND THE COMMUNITY'S DEPENDENCE ON OIL IMPORTS CUT FROM 63 PERCENT AT PRESENT TO 45 PERCENT BY 1985. SIMONET ALSO SAID THE PRODUCERS-CONSUMERS DIALOGUE MUST BE CONDITIONAL ON "COHESION" AMONG CONSUMERS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON NOVEMBER 28 COMMISSIONER SIMONET UNVEILED THE EC COMMISSION'S PROPOSED ENERGY PROGRAM WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE SPECIAL DECEMBER 17 EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING ON ENERGY. THE PROPOSALS CONSIST ESSENTIALLY OF MEASURES AIMED AT VARSIFYING SUPPLIES, REDUCING DEMAND AND ACHIEVING ENERGY CONSERVATION
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 EC BRU 09397 291949Z

THROUGH MORE RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY AND, SPECIFICALLY, RE-

DUCTION OF OIL CONSUMPTION. THE PROGRAM, HE SAID, WOULD AIM AT REDUCING THE ANNUAL GROWTH IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION FROM 5 PERCENT TO 3 1/2 PERCENT. THE PROPOSED PROGRAM STRESSES THE NEED FOR DEVELOPING NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY, PARTICULARLY NUCLEAR ENERGY WHICH SHOULD BE STEEPED UP. TO MEET HALF OF THE COMMUNITY'S TOTAL ELECTRICITY NEEDS. IN REGARD TO THE ROLE OF COAL THE PROGRAM ENVISAGES PRODUCTION BEING STABILIZED AT CURRENT OUTPUT LEVELS. THE PROGRAM FURTHER AIMS AT REDUCING BY 1985 THE SHARE OF IMPORTED OIL FROM ITS PRESENT LEVEL OF 63 PERCENT TO 45 PERCENT.

3. DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE, SIMONET COMMENTED THAT FORTHCOMING COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS ON ENERGY QUESTIONS AT THE EUROPEAN SUMMIT "AND BEYOND" WILL BE OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE FOR THE "CREDIBILITY OF THE EUROPEAN IDEA." HE SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE TO FACE UP TO CERTAIN CHOICES, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH IS TO DEFINE A COHERENT ATTITUDE TOWARD THE DIALOGUE WITH THE OIL PRODUCERS. WHILE THE DIALOGUE IS NECESSARY, HE POINTED OUT, IT MUST BE SUBORDINATED TO TWO CONDITIONS. FIRST THERE MUST BE COHERENCE AND "CONCERTATION" AMONG THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. SECONDLY, THERE MUST BE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TABLE A PARTNER WHO IS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DIALOGUE. USING EARLY STIFF LANGUAGE, SIMONET OUTLINED THE SERIOUS SITUATION CREATED BY MASSIVE OIL PRICE INCREASES; SUGGESTED THAT OPEC MIGHT SOON TAKE SOME FURTHER ACTION; AND SAID THAT SHOULD IT DO SO, THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE COMMUNITY, WOULD QUESTION WHETHER THE PRODUCERS' GOODWILL FOR GENUINE DIALOGUE REALLY EXISTS. SIMONET EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE AN "ORIGINAL AND GENUINE" CONTRIBUTION TO SOLVING THE WORLD'S ENERGY PROBLEM.

4. SIMONET ASSERTED THAT THERE WERE "NO SERIOUS DISCREPANCIES" BETWEEN THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS AND THE PROGRAM OF THE IEA. IN RESPONSE TO A REPORTER'S QUERY AS TO WHY IT HAD TAKEN THE COMMUNITY SO LONG TO COME UP WITH A COMMON ENERGY STRATEGY. SIMONET RESPONDED SOMEWHAT DEFENSIVELY BY RECOUNTING THE COMMISSION'S LENGTHY EFFORTS IN THIS FIELD AND SAID THAT THERE APPARENTLY WAS MORE SOLIDARITY IN ATLANTIC SPIRIT THAN SOLIDARITY

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 EC BRU 09397 291949Z

WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. SOME EC MEMBERS HAD APPARENTLY FOUND IT EASIER TO SUBSCRIBE TO UNDERTAKINGS WITHIN THE IEA THAN WITHIN THE COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK. SIMONET RECALLED THAT, AS ANTICIPATED, THE COMMISSION IS PROPOSING (APPARENTLY IN THE SUMMIT CONTEXT) STEPS THAT WOULD OVERCOME THE SPLIT BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE EIGHT IN REGARD TO THE IEA AND ARRANGEMENTS AGREED UPON AMONG THE IEA MEMBERS.

5. WE WILL REPORT DETAILS OF THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS BY
SEPARATE MESSAGE. MYERSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, ENERGY, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ECBRU09397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740347-0712
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974114/aaaaacsv.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: EC BRUSSELS 8853
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 SEP 2002 by chicheje>; APPROVED <12 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIMONET ON EC COMMISSION ENERGY PROPOSALS
TAGS: ENRG, EEC, (SIMONET)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005